

Evans was proud of his family and their accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, Congressman Frank Evans left a sizable mark on Colorado and there is no doubt his legacy will continue to impact the state. Renaming the Government Printing Office after the Congressman is an appropriate tribute to a man who was central to its construction.

IN SPECIAL RECOGNITION OF NATHAN KRUSE ON HIS APPOINTMENT TO ATTEND THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE ACADEMY

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to an outstanding young man from Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. I am happy to announce that Nathan Kruse, of Ottawa, Ohio has been offered an appointment to attend the United States Air Force Academy in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

Nathan brings an enormous amount of leadership, service and dedication to the incoming class of Air Force cadets. While a gifted athlete, having earned varsity and junior varsity letters in football and track, Nathan has also maintained the highest standards of excellence in his academics. He attained a 4.0 GPA at Ottawa-Glandorf High School and is a member of and president of the National Honor Society. Nathan also participated in the German Club, Academic Quiz Bowl and Science Olympiad.

Outside the classroom, Nathan is an Eagle Scout, Junior Optimist Club member and has volunteered for numerous tutoring opportunities. Nathan's dedication and service to his community and his peers has proven his ability to excel among the leaders at the Air Force Academy. I have no doubt that Nathan will take the lessons of his student leadership with him to Colorado Springs.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Nathan Kruse on his acceptance of appointment to the United States Air Force Academy where he will gain a world-class education and receive invaluable leadership experience. I am positive that Nathan will excel during his career at the Air Force Academy, and I ask my colleagues to join me in extending their best wishes to him as he begins his service to the nation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PERSONALIZE YOUR CARE ACT OF 2011

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the Personalize Your Care Act of 2011.

Advances in healthcare have led to increasingly complex health care decisions and more treatment options than we have ever before had the benefit—or the burden—of choosing between. Both Democrats and Republicans

agree that individuals should be fully involved in decisions related to their own health care and should be able to make informed decisions about that care reflecting their values and their needs. We also agree that when people have expressed their wishes, particularly in a formal and legally binding manner, those wishes should be known and respected.

While there is widespread agreement regarding these principles, too often this is not the reality. Most adults have not completed an advance directive; if documents are completed, they are not regularly revisited and can be difficult to locate. Because these issues are difficult to discuss, surrogates often feel ill-prepared to interpret their loved ones' written wishes.

These shortcomings can leave families and healthcare proxies faced with the burden of determining their loved ones' wishes in the midst of crisis, sometimes with little or no information about how best to direct care. This adds not only stress and anxiety to an already difficult situation, but studies show that lack of advance care planning actually prolongs the grieving process after losing a loved one.

One of the greatest misconceptions about advance care planning is that it is a one-time event. Attempting to plan for all possibilities in a single document or within a single conversation is overwhelming and, quite likely, impossible. Where possible, this should be an ongoing conversation. Careful, early advance care planning is important because a person's ability to make decisions may diminish over time and he or she may suddenly lose the capability to participate in his or her health care decisions.

Successful advance care planning is less about legal documentation and more about facilitating ongoing communication about future care wishes among individuals, their health care providers, and surrogates. This approach recognizes that advance care documents like advance directives are not the "ends," but the "means"—they are the tools for documenting care preferences based on informed decisions that incorporate an individual's values, personal goals, and current circumstances.

This process not only provides higher quality care, but personalized care.

The Personalize Your Care Act aims to support advance care planning by providing Medicare and Medicaid coverage for voluntary consultations about advance care planning every 5 years or in the event of a change in health status. This periodic revisiting of advance care documents and goals of care recognizes that an individual's preferences can change over time. It also recognizes that the advance care plan should be updated if an individual develops a serious or chronic illness, if additional curative and palliative treatment options become available, and to consistently reflect the individual's current circumstances and preferences.

Honoring the expressed wishes of individuals must also be a priority. For this to occur, advance care planning documents must be accessible wherever care is provided. The legislation ensures that an individual's electronic health record is able to display his or her current advance directive and/or physician orders for life sustaining treatment (POLST), so that his or her wishes are easily accessible and respected. Furthermore, under the legislation, advance directives would be portable, ensuring that advance directives completed in one

state are honored in another state, in the event care needed to be provided there.

The legislation also provides grants to states to establish or expand physician orders for life sustaining treatment programs. These programs have a track record of promoting patient autonomy through documenting and coordinating a person's treatment preferences, clarifying treatment intentions and minimizing confusion, reducing repetitive activities in complying with the Patient Self Determination Act, and facilitating appropriate treatment by emergency personnel.

These investments in advance care planning will reinforce patient-centered care—engaging individuals in planning and decision-making about their future care and ensuring that those preferences are documented, accessible, and can be honored in any state and in any care setting.

I am proud to introduce the Personalize Your Care Act with the support of patient advocates, physicians, nurses, and the faith community who see every day how advance care planning improves individuals' and families' peace of mind and the quality of their care.

TERRORIST ATTACKS ON ISRAELIS MARK NEW ESCALATION

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, April 15, 2011

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, the recent bombing in Jerusalem and sharp rise in unprovoked rocket attacks from Gaza have marked an escalation in violence by the Palestinian terrorists backed by Hamas and Iran. These attacks are a stark reminder of the constant threat Israel faces from those who want to destroy the Israeli state. It is also a reminder that the friendship and partnership the United States has with Israel is one that must always be protected and enhanced. Israel must be able to count on the continued support of the United States and the American people as they endeavor to live in a democracy free from the threat of attack.

In just the first 3 months of 2011, terrorists have fired more than 150 mortars and rockets into Israel and murdered five members of an Israeli family in their West Bank home. More frightening, Israeli forces intercepted 50 tons of Iranian arms, including advanced anti-ship missiles and radar, 2,500 mortar rounds, and 67,000 AK-47 rounds destined for Hamas in Gaza. The acquisition of these kinds of weapons makes it clear that Palestinian terrorists do not intend to back down from their campaign of terror.

This violence against the Israeli people is aided by the tacit compliance of the Palestinian Authority, which thus far has not stepped up its anti-terrorism efforts to root out Hamas and other terrorist elements associated with the Fatah Party. Instead, the Palestinians are generally accepting of this continued violence, martyring those who kill innocent civilians. Recently, the terrorist Dalal Mughrabi, who killed 35 Israelis after hijacking a bus, had a town square named in his honor. This behavior—and general popular acceptance of terror—only encourages further violence.

We cannot allow this escalated level of violence to be dismissed as just more back and